



Friday
July 15, 2011

Weekly Views

ABATE (American Bikers Aimed Towards Education) Ride with the Governor will be held on August 12, 2011 to support the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund. More details coming soon.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) hosted the Indiana State Police (ISP) Career Camp, providing over 77 participants with a tour of the Secured Confinement Unit followed by a question/answer session for the teenagers, eyeing careers in law enforcement. The ISP Career Camp, based in Vincennes, gives students an in-depth look at law enforcement, with WVCF being an annual stop for the students.

As part of a community service project, four students from Camp Summit Boot Camp completed a Gang Graffiti Abatement in the city of LaPorte, IN. They were able to paint over several gang symbols and other markings on buildings facing a city park. The students worked diligently to complete the project. One passerby commented to Camp Summit staff that it was nice to see such well-mannered kids helping the community.

Offenders from New Castle Correctional Facility's (NCCF) PLUS Unit donated 200 "critters" (bears & rabbits) to the Henry County Senior Advisory Council's Angleworx Project. Angleworx sends care packages to 200 senior residents in Henry County twice a year.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility (PCF) hosted multiple groups in and out of state. Members of Ohio's state government, a State Boiler Inspector, and an engineer from the Limbaugh Company viewed the facility's green initiatives in hopes of implementing similar programs in Ohio. Highlights of the tour included PCF's wind turbine, compost and recycling, seed processing, and bio-mass boiler areas. Additional, student law clerks from the Attorney General's office toured Putnamville's operations and programs. Guests were welcomed by Superintendent Stanley Knight. Assistant Superintendent Craig Grage gave an overview of the facility and conducted the tour. Staff from the Indianapolis Star newspaper also visited PCF to tour the facility's Shifting Gears program. Program Coordinator, Kevin Wilson and offenders assigned to the work line were interviewed to promote community awareness.



The Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit donated a hand-built dollhouse to For God So Loved the World Ministries, a homeless shelter located on the Far East side of Indianapolis. Among the ministry's residents are homeless veterans and their families and children. Two INVET residents spent more than 500 hours hand-making some of the dollhouse furniture and revamping and building the dollhouse, which was in disrepair when it was received as a donation. (see photo left)

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) celebrated another PLUS graduation. The group of 37 offender graduates is the facility's largest thus far. Offenders were able to invite guests to share in and support them as they celebrate this milestone. This is WCC's 13th PLUS graduation since the program started in November 2005. Ms Sandy Sharp, who has been the Unit's Program Director since its conception, has 249 offender participants.

Branchville Correctional Facility donated \$2500 to the Indiana State Police Summer Youth Camp Program. Through Branchville's donation, over 35 children were able to participate in the camp held at Lincoln State Park. The Junior Pioneer Camps are designed for students between 11 and 14 years old who are considered high risk and need a structured program with close supervision. The funds were generated through offender fundraisers held throughout the past few months.

Officials from the Madison County Prosecutor's Office toured the Pendleton Correctional Facility and met with representatives from all three Pendleton facilities, Executive Staff from Central Office, and Indiana State Police personnel. The visit was requested by the Prosecutor's Office for the purpose of demonstrating their support in addressing the needs of the three Pendleton facilities.

The Indiana Women's Prison hosted two family events for offender mothers and grandmothers. Forty-five offenders and 78 children, ages 4 to 17, attended the IWP Annual Kid's Camp. This group enjoyed activities such as an obstacle course, moon bounce, piñata and making picture frames. After a wonderful lunch of hotdogs and hamburgers, everyone watched the movie Toy Story 3. At IWP's Annual Teen's Day Camp, 10 offenders and 16 of teenagers enjoyed taking part in "Minute to Win It" activities, karaoke, and picture frame making after a taco bar lunch. Both days were fun for offenders, staff, volunteers and children alike. Superintendent McCauley personally thanked all for their support, help and donations to make this year's camp a success.

Miami Correctional Facility Superintendent Mark Sevier was presented with a Certificate of Recognition from James Durst, Superintendent with the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and Leslie Durst, Director of the Indiana Educational Resource Center. The certificate was for the valuable support, teamwork, administration and resources he has provided to the successful development and implementation of the Miami Accessible Media Project.